crores. Subsequently, a Revised Outlay of Rs. 750.00 crores was approved. The Net Normal Central Assistance actually released was Rs 871.36 crores.

Resource shortfall in Eighth Five Year Plan

842. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a resource shortfall in the Eighth Five Year Plan now estimated to be at a massive Rs. 60,000 crore at 1991-92 price as reported in the Economic Times dated the 30th October, 1994.

(b) if so, what are the facts and details in this regard ;

(c) how Government propose to meet this resource shortfall in the remaining two years so that the plan is not pruned substantially;

(d) whether the Planning Commission have set up a group of experts to look into the resource availability and suggest ways and means to salvage the Plan :

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard and whether the group of experts has submitted its report; and

(f) if so, what are its main recommendations and what action Government have taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (f) The Planning Commission has set up a Working Group on Mid-Term Appraisal of Financial Resources for the Eighth Five Year Plan which would, besides others, make an assessment of the shortfall in the Plan expenditure investment. The working Group have had three meeting so far and is currently engaged in assessing the likely shortfall in the resources during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Unutilised Foreign Aid

843. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unutilised foreign aid stands at Rs. 72.945 crores;

(b) if so. the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have launched a four pronged strategy to improve aid utilisation;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) whether Government have any proposal to use the foregin aid for the specific purpose for which it was given ;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Yes, Sir. As per provisional figures, the unutilised aid as on 31-8-1994 stands at Rs. 72.945 crores.

(b) Aid is tied to projects and is expected to be utilised over the